

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139602

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM GENVA DATED JUNE 4, 1977
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO USUN NEW YORK, TUNIS IS REPEATED
TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4437

FOR SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHAL AND ILAB

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJECT: ILO - PLENARY VOGES TO SEND ARTICLE 17 AMENDMENT
TO STRUCTURE COMMITTEE

1. JUNE 3, 3 P.M. PLENARY OF ILO CONFERENCE (ILC) BEGAN
CONSIDERING WHETHER TO ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION OF SELECTIONS
COMMITTEE THAT GOVERNING BODY PROPOSAL TO AMEND ARTICLE 17
BE ASSIGNED TO ILC STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (SOC) FOR DIS-
CUSSIONS. AFTER 3 HOURS OF DEBATE, SHOW OF HANDS VOTE
RESULTED IN 132 FOR, 2 AGAINST, AND 212 ABSTENTIONS (SEVERAL
SPEAKERS, SPECIFICALLY GOVT DELEGATES FROM LIBYA AND
TUNISIA, HAD URGED ABSTENTIONS AS BEST POSTURE FOR THOSE
OPPOSED TO REFERRING ITEM TO SOC). RECORD VOTE (ROLL-CALL)
WAS THEN CALLED FOR, WITH RESULT OF 134 FOR, 2 AGAINST
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(MEXICAN GOVT) AND 219 ABSTENTIONS, THUS REJECTING SELECTIONS
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR LACK OF QUORUM. DURING DEBATE
USREP HOROWITZ MADE TWO STATEMENTS, FIRST ON SUBSTANCE OF
ISSUE (FOCUSSED ON NEED TO FOLLOW PROPER PROCEDURES OF
ILC BY SENDING STANDING ORDERS ISSUES TO SOC) AND SECOND IN
IN REPLY TO ATTACK BY TUNISIAN GOVT REP ENNACEUR WHO HAD
STATED THAT A CERTAIN ILO MEMBER WAS ATTEMPTING TO

SUBJECT THE ILO TO "TUTELAGE". IN SECOND STATEMENT HOROWITZ REJECTED "TUTELAGE" CONCEPT BY STATING US HAS RIGHTS AS A MEMBER OF ILO TO PARTICIPATE FULLY BY DISCUSSING IMPORTANT ISSUES WITH OTHER MEMBERS AND SEEKING TO HAVE ILO CARRY OUT ITS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES. HE STATES WE DID NOT WISH TO PRESSURE ANYONE BUT DID WISH TO KNOW WHETHER MEMBERS AGREED WITH NEED TO RETURN TO BASIC PRINCIPLES.

2. FULL DETAILS OF BOTH FIRST AND SECOND VOTES BEING REPORTED SEPTEL (USDEL HAD ARRANGED AT STAFF MEETING MORNING OF JUNE 3 TO DEPLOY ITS MEMBERS DISCREETLY AROUND CONFERENCE HALL AND WAS ABLE TO NOTE SHOW OF HANDS RESULTS ADEQUATELY - PARA 3, REFTEL A). WEST EUROPEANS, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, JAPAN, JAMAICA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, BARBADOS, NICARAGUA, NEW ZEALAND, SWAZILAND, URUGUAY, LIBERIA, HONDURAS, GREECE, SPAIN, PORTUGUESE DELEGATIONS VOTED FOR, AND ALL OTHERS WERE EITHER ABSENT OR ABSTAINED, WITH A FEW DELEGATIONS SPLITTING VOTES. IMEC COUNTRIES VOTED SOLIDLY IN FAVOR.

3. IN SELECTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOWING PLENARY VOTE USREP (HOROWITZ) ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF STATUS OF ARTICLE 17. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (MAINWARING, CANADA) SAID MATTER WOULD BE TAKEN UP BY COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT SITTING EVENING OF JUNE 6. THUS IF MATTER COMES UP IN STRUCTURE COMMITTEE JUNE 6, WE AND OTHERS WILL BE ABLE TO ARGUE ARTICLE 17 IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION IN SELECTIONS COMMITTEE. USREP PLANS EXPLORE VARIOUS CONFIDENTIAL

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POSSIBILITIES WITH IMEC GROUP MEETING 9 A.M. JUNE 6, AND WORKER AND EMPLOYER GROUPS ARE ALSO MEETING AT SAME TIME TO CONSIDER NEXT MOVES. ONE POSSIBILITY HAS BEEN RAISED BY DUTCH EMPLOYER REP (HAK) WHICH WOULD INVOLVE BOTH STANDING ORDERS AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEES "WORKING JOINTLY" IN ORDER TO PRESENT AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 17 TO THIS SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE. SORENSON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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